

**What is claimed is:**

- 1        1.        An enhanced filtration and water conditioning system for a bait tank comprising:
  - 2                (a)        bait tank having a top, a bottom and an essentially oval shaped exterior wall
  - 3                connecting the top and bottom of the tank, first and second interior water compartments
  - 4                separated from one another and the wall, top and bottom of the portions of the tank via rip
  - 5                a second interior wall and a second interior bottom, a dual compartment filtration unit
  - 6                removably accommodated within the interior portion of the second compartment, filtration
  - 7                unit inflow and outflow water conduits each of said conduits communicably attaching said
  - 8                filtration unit to said first and said second interior compartments; and,
  - 9                (b)        pump means for circulating water from said first compartment into and through said
  - 10                second compartment and returning said circulating water to said first compartment.
- 1        2.        The system of claim 1 further comprising a water conditioning unit attached to the bait tank
- 2                via input and output water conditioning conduits.
- 1        3.        The system of claim 1 wherein the bait tank further comprises one or more tubular rod
- 2                holders affixed to tank's exterior wall.
- 1        4.        The system of claim 1 wherein the bait tank further comprises first and second interior
- 2                compartment lid covers pivotally attached to the top of said bait tank and each selectively
- 3                covering a cutaway portion of the top of said tank. allowing access to said one or more
- 4                tubular rod holders affixed to tank's exterior wall.

1        5.        The system of claim 1 further comprising:

2                    a water conditioning unit attached to the bait tank via input and output water  
3        conditioning conduits, the water conditioning compartment having a tubular conductor in  
4        communication with an evaporator, compressor and condenser forming a heat exchanger;  
5        a refrigerant traversing said tubular conductor;

6                    means for circulating water from said first compartment internal portion through said  
7        second compartment internal portion and cooled thereby via said water's traversing of a  
8        water flow conduit, said water flow conduit positioned between .005 inch and .015 inch  
9        distant of said heat exchanger means also housed within the interior portion of said second  
10       compartment; and

11                   a water transfer conduit connecting said compartments and said means for circulating  
12       water.

1        6.        The system of claim 1 further comprising a control means for presetting upper and lower  
2        reference temperatures for said water in said bait tank.

1        7.        An enhanced bait tank filtration and water conditioning apparatus comprising:

2        (a)       bait tank having a top, a bottom and an essentially oval shaped exterior wall  
3        connecting the top and bottom of the tank, first and second interior water compartments  
4        separated from one another and the wall, top and bottom of the portions of the tank via rip  
5        a second interior wall and a second interior bottom, a dual compartment filtration unit

removably accommodated within the interior portion of the second compartment, filtration unit inflow and outflow water conduits each of said conduits communicably attaching said filtration unit to said first and said second interior compartments;

(b) pump means for circulating water from said first compartment into and through said second compartment and returning said circulating water to said first compartment;

(c) a water conditioning unit attached to the bait tank via input and output water conditioning conduits, the water conditioning compartment having a tubular conductor in communication with an evaporator, compressor and condenser forming a heat exchanger; a refrigerant traversing said tubular conductor;

means for circulating water from said bait tank through said water conditioning compartment internal portion and cooled thereby via said water's traversing of a water flow conduit, said water flow conduit positioned between .005 inch and .015 inch distant of said heat exchanger means also housed within the interior portion of said second compartment; and

a water transfer conduit connecting said compartments and said means for circulating water.

8. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising a control means for presetting upper and lower reference temperatures for said water in said first portion.

9. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the bait tank further comprises one or more tubular rod holders affixed to tank's exterior wall.

1        10.     The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the bait tank further comprises first and second interior  
2               compartment lid covers pivotally attached to the top of said bait tank and each selectively  
3               covering a cutaway portion of the top of said tank. allowing access to said one or more  
4               tubular rod holders affixed to tank's exterior wall.